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| 10/825,699 | 04/16/2004 | Azita M. Manson | A-8474 | 9173 |

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SCIENTIFIC-ATLANTA, INC.
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY DEPARTMENT
5030 SUGARLOAF PARKWAY
LAWRENCEVILLE, GA 30044

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| EXAMINER | |
| SAINT CYR, JEAN D | |

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| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
| 2623 | |

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| NOTIFICATION DATE | DELIVERY MODE |
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

PTOmail@sciatl.com

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/825,699

Applicant(s)

MANSON ET AL.

Examiner

JEAN D. SAINT CYR

Art Unit

2623

Period for Reply -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-34 and 37-46 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,2,5-34 and 37-46 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 04/16/2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on 02/19/2008. Claims 1-2, 5-34, 37-46 are still pending in the present application. Claims 3-4, 35-36 have been cancelled.

This action is made FINAL.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments filed on 02/19/2008 have been fully considered, but they are not persuasive. Applicant amends the independent claims 1, 23 and 46 and argues that Shoff et al (US.6240555) did not disclose wherein the trigger attribute data is comprised of a portion that complies with an ATVEF (Advanced Television Enhancement Forum) standard and a portion that is not defined by an ATVEF standard. In the first office action, the examiner showed that Martinolich et al disclose that each trigger data file f includes sufficient information to specify the trigger according to the ATVEF in paragraph 0027. Also, the examiner showed that Shoff et al disclose the icon can be displayed throughout the program or faded out after a set time period (col.9, lines 45-46). The displayed icon represents the portion of the trigger that is not defined by an ATVEF standard as defined in the specification of the current application. After reviewing the reference cited (Shoff) in the first office action, the examiner found that he did not point out the exact spot of Shoff's reference that discloses "the following is a simple example of a start tag for an HTML hyperlink <HREF="http://www.microsoft.com/upgrade">". This represents the part of the trigger that complies with ATVEF as defined by the applicant in paragraph 0024 of the current application. Also, Shoff et al disclose "the target specification is set forth in the underlying hypermedia document, but is normally invisible to the user". That really proves that the trigger contains different data associated with it. This information proves that Shoff, by himself, discloses all the limitations of claims 1 and 46. As a result, **this action is made FINAL.**

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claims 1-2, 5-22, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shoff et al, US Patent No. 624055.

Re claim 1, Shoff et al disclose receiving (receiving video stream from headend, col.8, line 9) from a remote location (remote server, col.6, line 44; that means a server that is located at a remote location) trigger (trigger element, table 2, col.13, line 63) attribute data (attribute value, col.13, line 12) identifying (identifies, col.5, line 46) at least one (at least one, col.8, line 8) display attribute of an interactive icon;(see fig.6, element 62, display icon indicating interactive; the viewer computing unit also depicts a small icon or order indicia to alert the viewer the program is interactive, col.3, lines 21-23), wherein the trigger attribute data is comprised of a portion that complies with an ATVEF standard(the following is a simple example of a start tag for an HTML hyperlink <HREF="http://www.microsoft.com/upgrade">, col.13, lines 1-4)and a portion that is not defined by an ATVEF standard(the icon can be displayed throughout the program or faded out after a set time period(col.9, lines 45-46); responsive to receiving the trigger attribute data, causing an interactive icon having the at least one attribute identified by the trigger attribute data to be displayed via a display device (see fig.2, element 28, TV; programs are displayed on TV, col.4, lines 26-27); receiving user input selecting the interactive icon (waiting for input from viewer, col.9, lines 61-61); and responsive to receiving the user input, providing a television presentation enhancement (see fig.6, element 168, display program; to enhance the television program, col.3, line 30).

Re claim 2, Shoff et al disclose wherein the interactive icon has at least one attribute not identified by the trigger attribute data (the target resource contains display layout instructions prescribing how the supplemental content and the video content program are to be appear in relation to one another when displayed on television or monitor, col.3, lines 39-42; that means the collation of the attribute as described in the specification; the icon can be displayed

throughout the program or faded out after a set time period, col.9, lines 45-46; that means display time as described in the specification).

Re claim 5, Shoff et al disclose wherein the remote location (remote server, col.6, line 44) is a headend (centralized headend, col.4, line 16).

Re claim 6, Shoff et al disclose wherein the remote location is a content provider (content provider, col.8, line 49).

Re claim 7, Shoff et al disclose wherein the enhancement (enhance television program, col.3, line 30) comprises an advertisement (see fig.1, element 18, additional space; a third pane can be used to show additional data, such as advertisement or the like, col.2, lines 28-30; supplemental content includes trivia questions, advertisements, merchandise, col.5, lines 18-25)).

Re claim 8, Shoff et al disclose wherein the enhancement (enhance television program, col.3, line 30) comprises information about (information about the program, col.11, line 27) a television presentation (presentation format for presenting television program, col.3, line 56) that was displayed in conjunction (interactive functionality in conjunction with the associated video content program, col.9, line 67 and col.10, line 1) with the interactive icon (see fig.8a, element 204, icon; an icon is displayed to inform the viewer that the program is interactive compatible, col.9, lines 42-44).

Re claim 9, Shoff et al disclose wherein the enhancement (enhance television program, col.3, line 30) comprises data (internet data, col.2, line 34) that is received from a source (receive a video data from a program source, col.8, lines 12-13) identified (identifies a targeted document or resource, col.5, line 46) by the trigger (trigger element, table 2, col.13, line 63) attribute data (attribute value, col.13, line 12).

Re claim 10, Shoff et al disclose wherein the source (program source, such as headend, broadcaster, or other program provider, col.8, lines 13-14) is accessible via the Internet (through the internet, users can access a wide variety of resources, col.1, lines 61-62) using a uniform resource locator (URL) that is identified by the trigger attribute data (a URL (universal resource locator, col.6, lines 29-36).

Re claim 11, Shoff et al disclose wherein the source (program source, such as headend, broadcaster, or other program provider, col.8, lines 13-14) is one of an Internet server, a broadcast file system, an object carousel, or a local storage device (see fig.4, element 42, continuous media server; content can be supplied locally by a storage medium such as a CD_ROM, col.7, lines 61-62).

Re claim 12, Shoff et al disclose wherein the enhancement (see fig.2, element 52, enhanced content server) is downloaded (target resource is downloaded, col.3, line 43) using one of a hyper text transfer protocol (http), hyper text transfer protocol secure (https), file transfer protocol (ftp), trivial file transfer protocol (tftp), broadcast file system (bfs), digital storage media command and control (DSM-CC) object carousel (the letters "http" stand for Hypertext Transfer Protocol, col.6, line 42).

Re claim 13, Shoff et al disclose wherein the trigger attribute data identifies a display time window during which the interactive icon is to be displayed (see fig.8a, element 204, displayed icon; the icon can be displayed throughout the program, or fade out after a set time period, col.9, lines 45-46; see fig.6, step 162, display icon).

Re claim 14, Shoff et al disclose wherein the interactive icon is displayed responsive to a current time being within the display time window (see fig.9, element 254, timing requirement; timing information can be implemented in many different way, col.10, lines 9-10; start time to synchronize presentation of the supplemental content, col.10, lines 12-13).

Re claim 15, Shoff et al disclose wherein the trigger attribute data identifies a display time

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duration for displaying the interactive icon (the icon can be displayed throughout the program, or fade out after a set time period, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the icon has a specific display time duration).

Re claim 16, Shoff et al disclose wherein the interactive icon is displayed (display an icon, col.9, line 36) for a time period (time period, col.9, line 46) that is substantially equal to the display time duration (the icon can be displayed throughout the program, or fade out after a set time period, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the icon has a specific display time duration).

Re claim 17, Shoff et al disclose wherein the interactive icon is displayed (display an icon, col.9, line 36) for a plurality of time periods (a set time period, col.9, line 46; that means a set time period represents more than one time period), each of the plurality of time periods being substantially equal to the display time duration (the icon can be displayed throughout the program, or fade out after a set time period, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the icon has a specific display time duration).

Re claim 18, Shoff et al disclose wherein the trigger attribute data identifies a sleep time duration for suspending display of the interactive icon (the icon can be displayed and faded out, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the is stopped displaying after a period of time).

Re claim 19, Shoff et al disclose wherein display of the interactive icon is suspended for a time period (the icon can be displayed and faded out, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the is stopped displaying after a period of time) that is substantially equal to the sleep time duration.

Re claim 20, Shoff et al disclose wherein display of the interactive icon is suspended (the icon can be displayed and faded out, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the is stopped displaying after a period of time) for a plurality of time periods (a set time period, col.9, line 46; that means a set

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time period represents more than one time period), each of the plurality of time periods being substantially equal to the sleep-time duration (the icon can be displayed throughout the program, or fade out after a set time period, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the icon has a specific display time duration).

Re claim 21, Shoff et al disclose wherein the trigger (trigger element, table 2, col.13, line 63) attribute data (attribute value, col.13, line 12) identifies a screen (display screen, col.8, line 27) location for displaying the interactive icon (see fig.6, element 62, display icon indicating interactive; the viewer computing unit also depicts a small icon or order indicia to alert the viewer the program is interactive, col.3, lines 21-23).

Re claim 22, Shoff et al disclose wherein the interactive icon is displayed at the screen (screen, col.2, line 24) location (location, col.10, line 46) identified by the trigger attribute data (see fig.8c).

Re claim 46, Shoff et al disclose receiving (receiving video stream from headend, col.8, line 9) from a remote location (remote server, col.6, line 44; that means a server that is located at a remote location) trigger (trigger element, table 2, col.13, line 63) attribute data (attribute value, col.13, line 12) identifying (identifies, col.5, line 46) at least one (at least one, col.8, line 8) display attribute of an interactive icon;(see fig.6, element 62, display icon indicating interactive; the viewer computing unit also depicts a small icon or order indicia to alert the viewer the program is interactive, col.3, lines 21-23), wherein the trigger attribute data is comprised of a portion that complies with an ATVEF standard(the following is a simple example of a start tag for an HTML hyperlink <HREF="http://www.microsoft.com/upgrade">, col.13, lines 1-4)and a portion that is not defined by an ATVEF standard(the icon can be displayed throughout the program or faded out after a set time period(col.9, lines 45-46); responsive to receiving the trigger attribute data, causing an interactive icon having the at least one attribute identified by the trigger attribute data to be displayed via a display device (see fig.2, element 28, TV; programs are displayed on TV, col.4, lines 26-27); receiving user input selecting the interactive icon (waiting for input from viewer, col.9, lines 61-

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61); and responsive to receiving the user input, providing a television presentation enhancement (see fig.6, element 168, display program; to enhance the television program, col.3, line 30)

wherein the trigger attribute data corresponds to a trigger(trigger, col.14, line 27, table 2); wherein the remote location(remote server, col.6, line 44) is a headend(centralized headend, col.4, line 16), the display device is a television(see fig.2, element 28, television), and the user input is provided by a remote control device(see fig.2, element 30, remote control);

wherein the enhancement(enhance television program, col.3, line 30) comprises data(internet data, col.2, line 34) that is received from a source(receive a video data from a program source, col.8, lines 12-13) identified (identifies a targeted document or resource, col5, line 46)by the trigger (trigger element, table 2, col.13, line 63) attribute data(attribute value, col.13, line 12); wherein the source(program source, such as headend, broadcaster, or other program provider, col.8, lines 13-14) is accessible via the Internet(through the internet, users can access a wide variety of resources, col.1, lines 61-62) using a uniform resource locator (URL) that is identified by the trigger attribute data(a URL(universal resource locator, col.6, lines 29-36);

wherein the source (program source, such as headend, broadcaster, or other program provider, col.8, lines 13-14) is one of an Internet server, a broadcast file system, an object carousel, or a local storage device(see fig.4, element 42, continuous media server; content can be supplied locally by a storage medium such as a CD_ROM, col.7, lines 61-62);

wherein the enhancement (see fig.2, element 52, enhanced content server) is downloaded (target resource is downloaded, col.3, line 43) using one of a hyper text transfer protocol (http), hyper text transfer protocol secure (https), file transfer protocol (ftp), trivial file transfer protocol (tftp), broadcast file system (bfs), digital storage media command and control (DSM-CC) (the letters “http” stand for Hypertext Transfer Protocol, col.6, line 42);

wherein the trigger attribute data identifies a display time window during which the interactive icon is to be displayed(see fig.8a, element 204, displayed icon; the icon can be displayed throughout the program, or fade out after a set time period, col.9, lines 45-46; see fig.6,step 162, display icon);

wherein the interactive icon is displayed responsive to a current time being within the display time window(see fig.9, element 254, timing requirement; timing information can be implemented in many different way, col.10, lines 9-10; start time to synchronize presentation of the supplemental content,col.10, lines 12-13);

wherein the trigger attribute data identifies a display time duration for displaying the interactive icon (the icon can be displayed throughout the program, or fade out after a set time period, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the icon has a specific display time duration);

wherein the interactive icon is displayed (display an icon, col.9, line 36) for a time period (time period, col.9, line 46) that is substantially equal to the display time duration (the icon can be displayed throughout the program, or fade out after a set time period, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the icon has a specific display time duration);

wherein the trigger attribute data identifies a sleep time duration for suspending display of the interactive icon (the icon can be displayed and faded out, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the is stopped displaying after a period of time);

wherein display of the interactive icon is suspended for a time period (the icon can be displayed and faded out, col.9, lines 45-46; that means the is stopped displaying after a period of time) that is substantially equal to the sleep time duration;

wherein the trigger attribute data identifies a screen location for displaying the interactive icon; wherein the interactive icon is displayed at the screen(screen,col.2, line 24) location(location, col.10, line 46) identified by the trigger attribute data(see fig.8c).

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 23-34, 37-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Shoff et al in view of Heer et al, US No. 20050097600.

Re claim 23, Shoff et al disclose a first set-top terminal (see fig.2, element 26, set-top box) comprising: logic configured (see fig.5, element 101, operating system; data structure, programming information, col.5, lines 61-63) to cause (allow, col.8, line 23) an interactive icon to be displayed (see fig.8a, element 204, icon) via a display device (visual display unit, col.4, line 32; see fig.2, element 28, television), the interactive icon having at least one display attribute (attribute value, col.13, line 12) identified by trigger(trigger element, table 2, col.13, line 63) attribute data(attribute value, col.13, line 12); wherein the trigger attribute data is comprised of a portion that complies with an ATVEF standard(the following is a simple example of a start tag for an HTML hyperlink
<HREF="http://www.microsoft.com/upgrade">) and a portion that is not defined by an ATVEF standard(the icon can be displayed throughout the program or faded out after a set time period(col.9, lines 45-46);

and logic configured(see fig.5, element 101, operating system; data structure, programming information, col.5, lines 61-63) to cause a television presentation(presentation for presenting television program, col.3, line 56) enhancement(enhance television program, col.3, line 30) to be displayed via the display device(see fig.2, element 28, television; programs are displayed on TV, col.4, lines 26-27) responsive to user input(waiting for input from viewer, col.9, lines 61-61) selecting the interactive icon(selectively activate the interactive mode,col.9, line 32).

But Shoff et al did not explicitly disclose received from another apparatus.

In an analogous art, Heer et al disclose received from another apparatus (the remote computer may be another computer, another client terminal, 0101; see fig.1, set-top box).

In view of the teaching of Heer, it would have been obvious for any person of ordinary skill in the art at that time the invention was made to implement received from another apparatus into the system of Shoff. With that option, users will have the opportunities to receive attribute data from at least two set-top boxes.

Re claim 24, Shoff et al disclose further comprising memory (the set-top box has a memory, col.2, lines 65-66) for storing (EPG is stored in the memory, col2, line 67) at least one default value identifying a characteristic (category, col.12, line 21) of the interactive icon (a default mode of interactivity which contains the main menu functionality, col.11, lines 14-15).

Re claim 25, depending on claim 23, see rejection on claim 13.

Re claim 26, depending on claim 25, see rejection on claim 14.

Re claim 27, depending on claim 23, see rejection on claim 15.

Re claim 28, depending on claim 27, see rejection on claim 16.

Re claim 29, depending on claim 27, see rejection on claim 17.

Re claim 30, depending on claim 23, see rejection on claim 18.

Re claim 31, depending on claim 30, see rejection on claim 19.

Re claim 32, depending on claim 30, see rejection on claim 20.

Re claim 33, depending on claim 23, see rejection on claim 21.

Re claim 34, depending on claim 33, see rejection on claim 22.

Re claim 37, depending on claim 23, see rejection on claim 5.

Re claim 38, depending on claim 23, see rejection on claim 6.

Re claim 39, Shoff et al did not explicitly disclose wherein the other apparatus is another STT.

In an analogous art, Heer et al show in fig.1 more than one set-top boxes. That means the other apparatus could be another set-top box.

In view of the teaching of Heer, it would have been obvious for any person of ordinary skill in the art at that time the invention was made to implement the other apparatus is another STT into the system of Shoff. With that option, users will have the opportunities to receive attribute data from at least two set-top boxes.

Re claim 40, depending on claim 23, see rejection on claim 7.

Re claim 41, depending on claim 23, see rejection on claim 8.

Re claim 42, depending on claim 23, see rejection on claim 9.

Re claim 43, depending on claim 42, see rejection on claim 10.

Re claim 44, depending on claim 42, see rejection on claim 11.

Re claim 45, depending on claim 42, see rejection on claim 12.

Conclusion

Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jean Duclos Saintcyr whose phone number is 571-270-3224. The examiner can normally reach on M-F 7:30-5:00 PM EST. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are not successful, his supervisor, Brian Pendleton, can be reached on 571-272-7527. The fax number for the organization where the application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, dial 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Jean Duclos Saintcyr.

/Brian T. Pendleton/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2623

